CLAIMS

1. (currently amended)A middleware system for configuring the integration of a plurality of applications, the system comprising:

a database storing data regarding the plurality of applications, the data being stored in accordance with a data model; and

a Message-Oriented-Middleware (MOM) module communicatively coupled to one of the plurality of applications and to the database, the MOM module comprising:

a first layer specific to the one of the plurality of applications to which the MOM module is coupled; and

a second layer, communicatively coupled to the first layer, for communicating with the database;

wherein processing of said MOM module comprises:

sending a message from the first layer to the second layer, the message including a message identification and metadata;

responsive to receiving the message sent by the first layer, querying the database with the message identification and the metadata; and

sending, by the second layer to a message bus, the message with a queue manager and a queue name, wherein the queue manager and the queue name are obtained from the database;

wherein communication among said database, said MOM, said message bus and said queue manager is brokerless.

2. (previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein the data stored in the database in accordance with a data model, the data model comprising:

a partition data entity which corresponds to an eClient;

a metadata data entity which is used to uniquely identify the eClient;

an application data entity which defines the plurality of applications;

PAGE 6/11 * RCVD AT 2/7/2006 8:28:44 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/24 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:650 474 8401 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-06

a message data entity which defines messages which flow through the system; and

a host data entity which defines servers in the system.

3. (original) The system of Claim 2, the data model further comprising:

an app instance data entity which identifies the servers on which each of the plurality of applications is located;

an app message data entity which identifies the messages sent to and received by each of the plurality of applications; and

an app partition data entity which associates the plurality of applications with the eClients.

4. (original) The system of Claim 2, wherein the data model further comprises:

a queue data entity defining a repository of messages sent and received by the plurality of applications; and

a queue manager data entity for allowing a queue to run on a server.

5. (original) The system of Claim 2, wherein a new application can be integrated by adding it to the application data entity, wherein the addition of the new application does not interrupt the performance of the system.

6. (original) The system of Claim 2, wherein a new message can be routed by adding it to the message data entity, wherein the addition of the new message does not interrupt the performance of the system.

7. (currently amended) A middleware system for configuring the integration of a plurality of applications, and routing messages between the plurality of applications, the system comprising:

a database storing data regarding the plurality of applications, the data being stored in accordance with a data model, wherein the data model allows for

PAGE 7/11 * RCVD AT 2/7/2006 8:28:44 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/24 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:650 474 8401 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-06

addition of new applications without modification of the existing plurality of applications; and

a Message-Oriented-Middleware (MOM) module communicatively coupled to one of the plurality of the applications and to the database, the MOM module comprising:

a first layer specific to the one of the plurality of applications to which the MOM module is coupled; and

a second layer, communicatively coupled to the first layer, for communicating with the database;

wherein processing of said MOM module comprises:

sending a message from the first layer to the second layer, the message including a message identification and metadata;

responsive to receiving the message sent by the first layer, querying the database with the message identification and the metadata; and

sending, by the second layer to a message bus, the message with a queue manager and a queue name, wherein the queue manager and the queue name are obtained from the database;

wherein communication among said database, said MOM module, said message bus and said queue manager is brokerless.

8. (original) The system of Claim 7, wherein the data model further allows for routing of new messages between the plurality of applications, without modification of the existing plurality of applications.

9. (currently amended) A method for routing messages from an application in an integrated framework, the framework comprising a centralized database and a plurality of Message-Oriented-Middleware (MOM) modules, at least one MOM module coupled to one of the plurality of applications and to the database and including an application adapter and a message adapter, the method comprising:

processing, by at least one MOM module, of the messages associated with the one of the plurality of applications to which the MOM module is coupled; and

PAGE 8/11 * RCVD AT 2/7/2006 8:28:44 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/24 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:650 474 8401 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-06

controlling, in accordance with the centralized database, the distributed processing of the messages by the plurality of the MOM modules;

wherein the processing comprises:

sending a message from the application adapter to the message adapter, the message including a message identification and metadata;

responsive to receiving the message sent by the application adapter, querying the database with the message identification and the metadata; and

sending, by the message adapter to a message bus, the message with the queue manager and the queue name, wherein the queue manager and the queue name are obtained from the database;

wherein communication among said database, said MOM modules, said message bus and said queue manager is brokerless.

10. (canceled)

11. (original) The method of Claim 9, wherein the controlling comprises:

receiving, by the database, a query from one of the plurality of MOM modules, the query including message identification and metadata; and

returning to the one of the plurality of MOM modules data including a queue manager and a queue name, the queue name identifying the queue to which the message is sent.

PAGE 9/11 * RCVD AT 2/7/2006 8:28:44 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/24 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:650 474 8401 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-06